

AL-IV-A-107

AL-~~36~~ 89

HISTORIC-AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
INVENTORY

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Allegany</u> TOWN <u>Cumberland</u> VICINITY <u>at Park St.</u> STREET NO. <u>Williams at Park St.</u> ORIGINAL OWNER <u>City gave land to B &amp; O</u> ORIGINAL USE <u>Home</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>B &amp; O RR</u> PRESENT USE <u>Office Building</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>Brick</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>2</u>	2. NAME <u>Capt. Robert Armistead French</u> <u>(1821-1897)</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>post-civil-war</u> STYLE <u>Victorian (Colonial influence)</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC YES

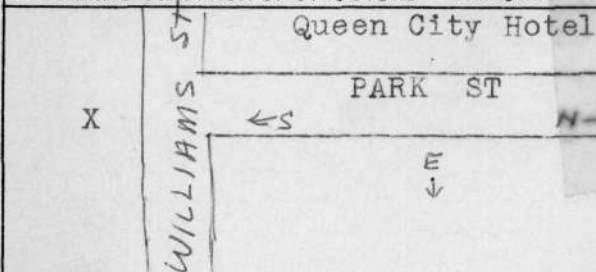
Capt. Robert Armistead French, b. Oct. 9, 1821, Baltimore, Md., came to Cumberland, Md. with the B&O Railroad people. He at first lived on east Baltimore Street near Park. Later, he built the home on Williams Street facing Park St.

Capt. French took an active part in the Kingsley Methodist Church. The Men's Bible Class there was named for him and was known as "French Bible Class" for years. It disbanded about 1967 when two Sunday School classes joined.

NOTE: BELLE FRENCH TROXELL, DAUGHTER OF CAPT. FRENCH, TOLD ME THAT HER HOME WAS A BEAUTIFUL HOME KEPT WELL PAINTED AND CARED FOR. IT HAD SHUTTERS, BEAUTIFUL SHADE TREES AND LAWN. IT DISTRESSED HER TO SEE IT USED AS A BUSINESS BUILDING, WITH NO TREES NO LAWN, ETC.

B & O RR ANNOUNCED AUG. 21 THAT ABOVE PROPERTY WOULD BE RAZED.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE <sup>W</sup> Endangered Interior Exterior

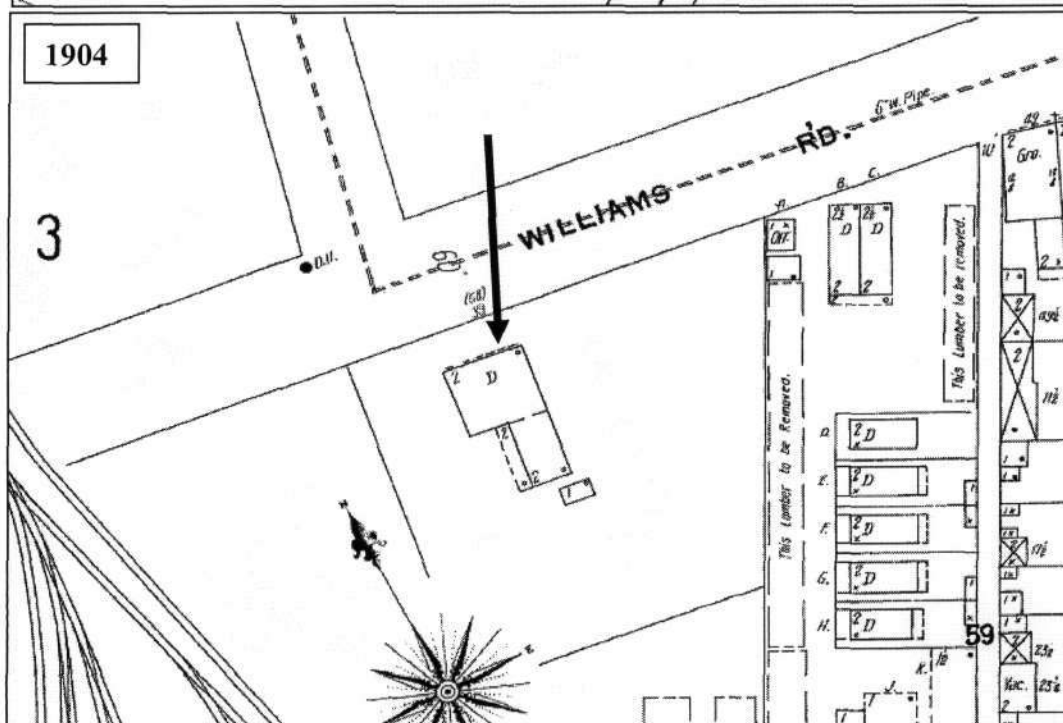
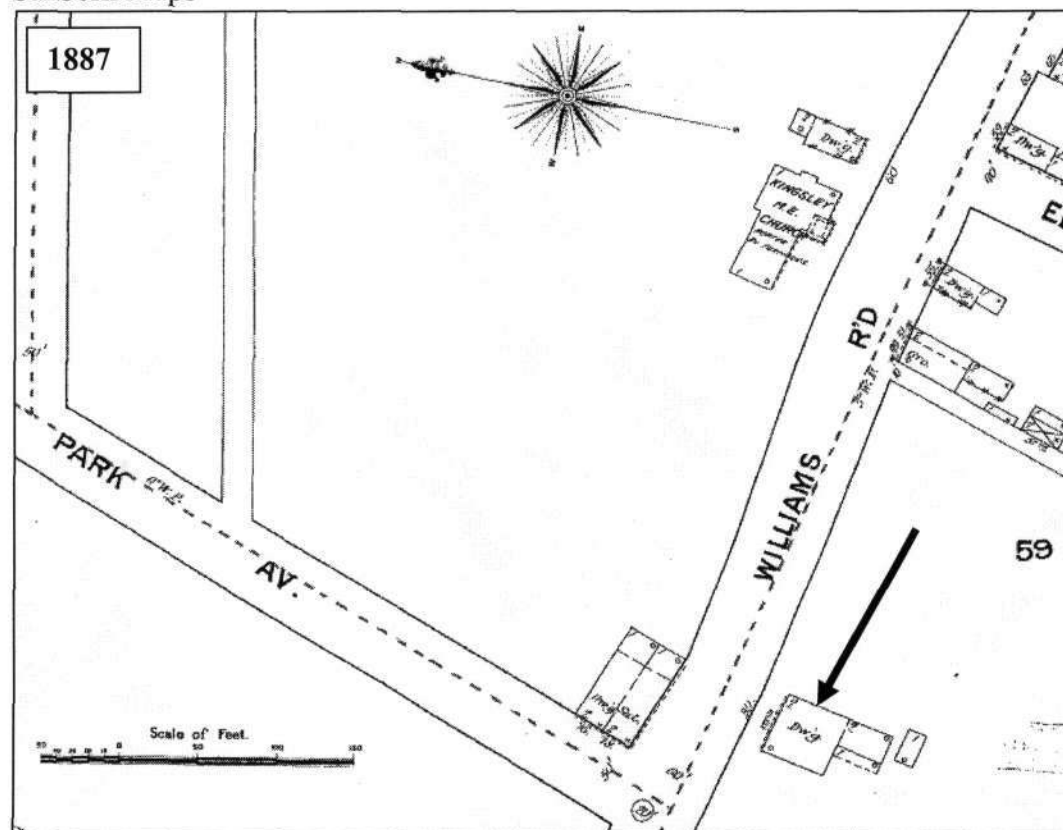


6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. <u>INTERVIEW-with daughter ca 1940</u> <u>Belle French Troxell-</u> <u>B+O History</u> <u>LOCAL History</u>	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Hazel Groves Hansrote, Chairman</u> <u>Md. Hist. Trust; Sec. Preservation</u> <u>Society</u> <u>Jan. 10, 1970</u> DATE OF RECORD
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AL-IV-A-107  
Captain Robert Armistead French House, site  
(demolished c. 1970)  
215 Williams Street  
Sanborn Maps

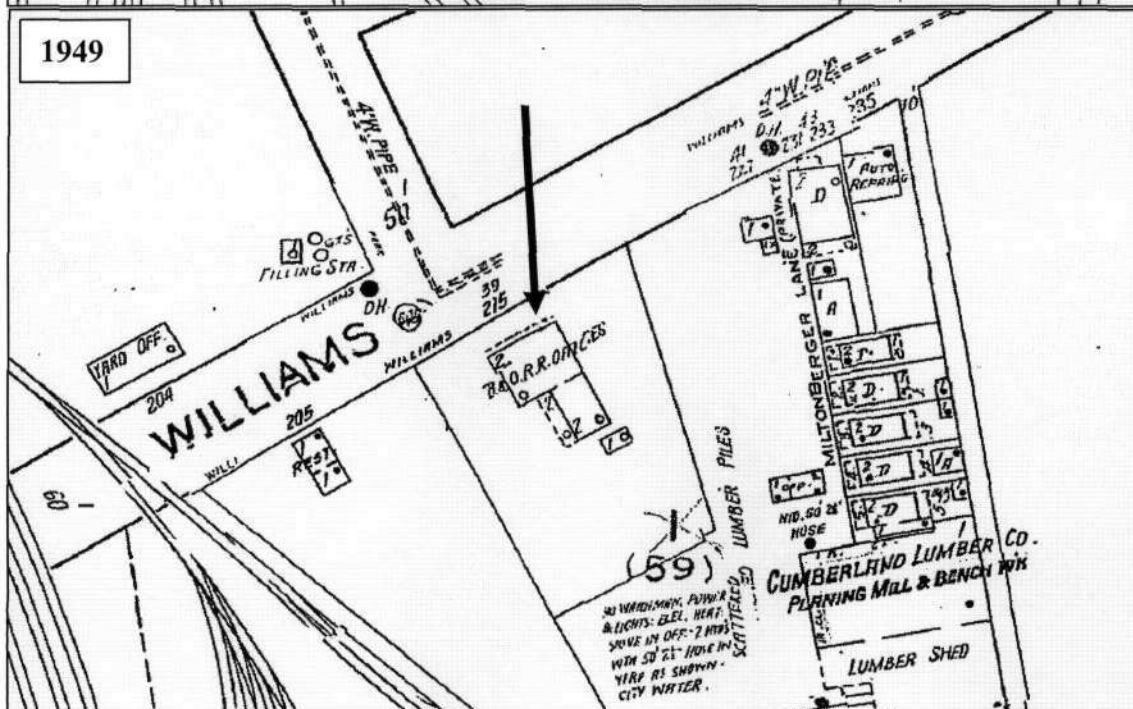
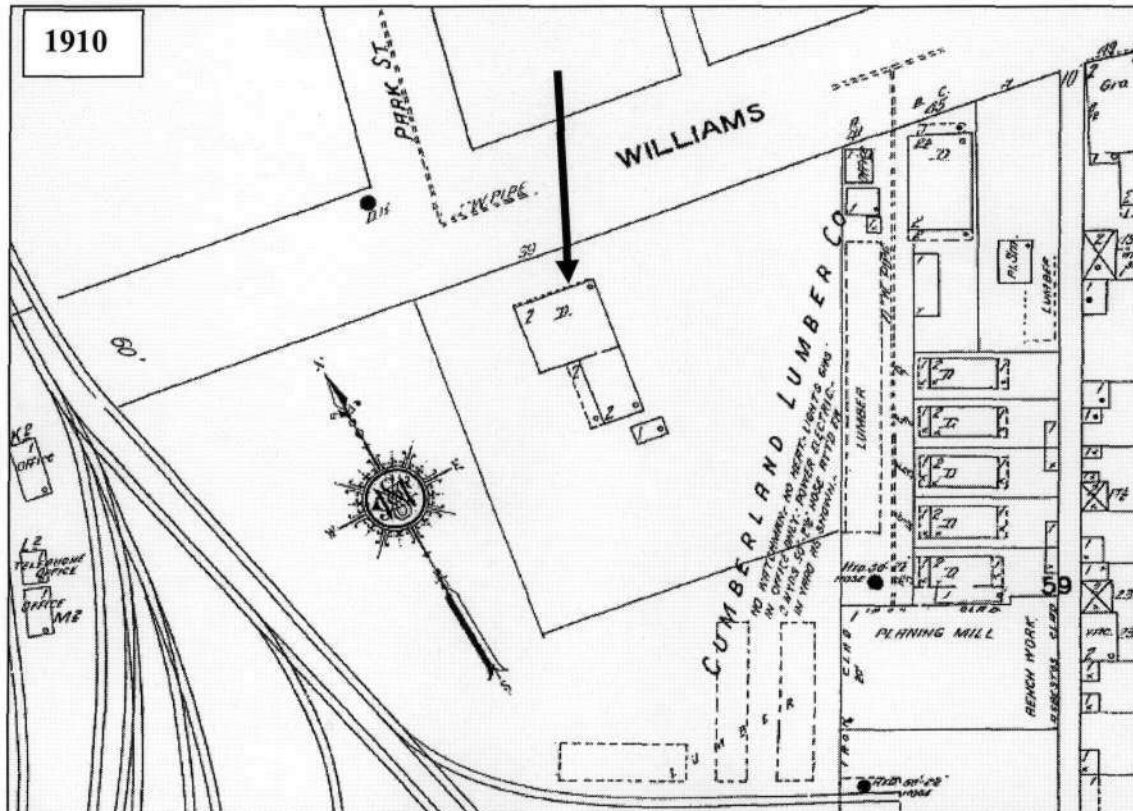


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Captain Robert Armistead French House, site  
(demolished c. 1970)

215 Williams Street  
Sanborn Maps

(B&O Railroad office by 1921)



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Captain Robert Armistead French House, site  
(demolished c. 1970)

215 Williams Street

Cumberland Quadrangle



1994-95 Aerial Photo with building footprint superimposed





Capt - French Horn

(B + O prop.)  
Wm St-

AL-IV-A-107

taken by  
Helen Henkle 1970